

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
EUGENE DISTRICT OFFICE

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
And
DECISION RECORD
Taylor Landing Recreation Site Improvements
Environmental Assessment No. OR090-EA-03-20

Background:

An Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed Taylor Landing Recreation Site Improvements were prepared by the Upper Willamette Resource Area, Eugene District. This project would occur in the McKenzie Watershed in Township 17 S., R. 1 E., Section 19.

The purpose of the project is to:

- improve the facilities for boat launching, fishing, picnicking, and river viewing.
- mitigate impacts to the riparian area by defining and hardening recreational use areas.

Public Comment:

The EA was advertised on October 29, 2004 in the Eugene Register Guard as available for a 30-day public review period. Four comments were received. Concerns raised included:

1. disturbance to fish from the fishing platform
1. space available for a vehicle and boat trailer to turn around in
2. fire risk from grills in picnic units
3. closure of the toilet during the winter
4. use of BLM lands and private lands south of Deerhorn road
5. effectiveness of measures to protect riparian habitat

The public comments were used in making the decision described below.

Finding of No Significant Impact:

On the basis of the information contained in the attached Environmental Assessment, and all other information available to me, it is my determination that implementation of the proposed action or alternative will not have significant environmental impacts not already addressed in the *Record of Decision (ROD) for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl (April 1994)* and the *Eugene District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan (June 1995)*, the *Record of Decision for Amendments to the Survey and Manage, Protection Buffer, and other Mitigation Measures Standards and Guidelines (2001)*, the *Record of Decision to Clarify Provisions Relating to the Aquatic Conservation Strategy (2004)* and the *Record of Decision to Remove or Modify the Survey and Manage Mitigation Measure Standards and Guidelines (2004)* with which this EA is in conformance, and does not, in and of itself, constitute a major federal action having significant effect on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, a new environmental impact statement or supplement to the existing environmental impact statement is not necessary and will not be prepared.

Decision:

Based on the analysis documented in the Environmental Assessment No. OR090-EA-03-20 and the Finding of No Significant Impact, it is my decision to implement Alternative 2 with two additions from Alternative 3. Three picnicking units would be built without grills. Gravel foot paths connecting the parking areas on Deerhorn Road with the picnicking units and asphalt entrance would be built and the adjacent dirt surfaces would be replanted with native vegetation.

Decision Rationale:

Alternative 2 with the modification described above would best meet the objectives of improving this site for boat launching, fishing, picnicking, and viewing this project as well as reducing the impacts to the riparian area. There would be no long term detrimental effects to the fisheries, erosion would be reduced from the riparian plantings and site hardening, ingress and egress would be improved, and opportunities for picnicking would increase.

Alternative 1 was not selected because it would not meet any of the objectives. Alternative 3 was not selected because 1) the site is small and cannot easily accommodate a turnaround for vehicles with a trailer and a disabled parking spot, path and fishing platform, 2) the fishing platform would not function during the summer when river levels are lower and the platform could be far from the waters edge, 3) the proposed benches would be in the annual floodplain.

The Proposed Action is in conformance with the *Record of Decision for Amendments to Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management Planning Documents Within the Range of the Northern Spotted Owl* (April 1994), and the *Eugene District Record of Decision and Resource Management Plan* (May 1995).

Administrative Review Opportunities:

The decision to implement this project may be appealed to the Office of Hearings and Appeals, Office of the Secretary, U.S. Department of the Interior, in accordance with the regulations contained in 43 CFR, Part 4. If an appeal is taken, the notice of appeal must be filed in this office within 30 days of publication of the notice of this decision in the Eugene Register-Guard for transmittal to the Board. This notice will be published in the Eugene Register Guard on May 12, 2004. A copy of the notice of appeal and any statement of reasons, written arguments, or briefs must also be served upon the Regional Solicitor, Pacific Northwest Region, U.S. Department of the Interior, 500 NE Multnomah Street, Suite 607, Portland, Oregon 97232, within the same time frame. In taking an appeal, there must be strict compliance with the regulations. In accordance with 43 CFR 4.21, an appellant has the right to petition the Office of Hearing and Appeals to stay the implementation of the decision; however, an appellant must show standing and present reasons for requesting a stay of the decision. The petition for stay must be filed together with a timely notice of appeal (43 CFR 4.21(a)(2)).

Approved by: Emily Rice
Upper Willamette Resource Area Field Manager

Date: 5/6/04